



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
George Washington Memorial Parkway
c/o Turkey Run Park
McLean, Virginia 22101

IN REPLY REFER TO:

August 18, 2006

Dear Friends of Jones Point Park:

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to improve and enhance Jones Point Park (JPP). The project includes recreational features, an interpretive plan related to cultural resources, and proposed modifications to parking and access within the park. The NPS and the City of Alexandria's goal for the redevelopment of JPP is a carefully balanced program of active recreation, passive recreation, and interpretation of archeological, historic, cultural, and natural park features.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) presents the alternatives studied for improvements to JPP that are a part of the mitigation commitments outlined in the 2000 Record of Decision (ROD) and 1997 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) *et al*, required for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge (WWB) Replacement Project. The proposed alternatives include the No-Action Alternative and four action alternatives. The No-Action Alternative maintains the existing soccer fields located south of the WWB; however, the No-Action Alternative does not address the federal Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) security recommendation to remove all public vehicle access and parking from beneath the new WWB. Further, the No-Action Alternative does not fulfill the Purpose and Need for the project (refer to Chapter 1.0 of this EA), the NPS resource management goals for JPP (refer to Chapter 2.0 of this EA), or the conditions relevant to JPP as stated in the Record of Decision and the Memorandum of Agreement for the WWB Replacement Project (refer to Appendices E and F of this EA).

The four action alternatives contain the following similar components: park manager's office/comfort station; tot lot; promenade/boardwalk; access to the Mt. Vernon Trail; shoreline stabilization; proposed bulkhead, canoe/kayak launch, and a fishing pier; the rehabilitation of the Jones Point Lighthouse and the preservation of the D.C. South Cornerstone; and drainage improvements along a new access road. The differences between the action alternatives relate to the location and orientation of the multi-use fields, the length of the access road, and the location and size of parking areas. Each action alternative could use a combination of perimeter barriers to limit vehicular access and public parking under the WWB and within an 80-foot distance surrounding the bridge. This document supersedes the *Jones Point Park Environmental Assessment* (JPP EA) dated September 2001, and serves as a comprehensive management plan for future development of JPP.

This document identifies Alternative 4 as the Preferred Alternative for improvements to JPP. The Preferred Alternative would enhance recreational opportunities in JPP, address security issues, improve drainage conditions and would minimize, as much as possible, the potential community and environmental effects of the proposed improvements. The NPS believes that the proposed park redevelopment plan addresses the broad range of park uses recommended by the citizens of the City of Alexandria and regional park visitors.

This EA is available for public review at the George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and on the NPS website at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gwmp>. Copies of the EA are also available at the following libraries:

Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library
5005 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

James M. Duncan Branch Library
3809 Mt. Vernon Street (temporary location)
Alexandria, Virginia 22305

Central Library
1015 N. Quincy Street
Arlington, Virginia 22201

John Marshall Library
6209 Rose Hill Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22310

Martha Washington Library
6614 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22307

Sherwood Regional Library
2501 Sherwood Hall Lane
Alexandria, Virginia 22306

Kate Waller Barrett Branch
717 Queen Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch
4701 Seminary Road
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

Oxon Hill Library
6200 Oxon Hill Road
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745

We welcome your input on the project. The public comment period closes on October 18, 2006. The preferred system for receiving public comments electronically is through the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website where the EA is publicly posted on the Internet. The PEPC database is a tool used by the NPS to manage official correspondence and analyze public comment in the planning process. The website address is <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/gwmp>. You may fill out a comment form online. From the list of projects, click on the Jones Point Park Environmental Assessment. In the left menu, click Document List, then 2006 Environmental Assessment, and Comment on Document. You can also mail comments to:

Mr. David Vela, Superintendent
ATTN: Jones Point Park EA
George Washington Memorial Parkway Headquarters
Turkey Run Park
McLean, Virginia 22101

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we would honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment.

Thank you for your interest in Jones Point Park and your input in this project.

Sincerely,



David Vela
Superintendent